NEW ZEALAND

EDICT OF GOVERNMENT

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NZS BIO FISSHARIC.ALL (2010) (English): Import Health Standard For Sand Tiger Sharks (Carcharias taurus) from all countries (Updated 7 September 2010) [By Authority of The Biosecurity Act of 1993]

We will sell to no man,
we will not deny or defer to any man either justice or right.
Magna Carta—Tūtohinga Nui
Kore rawa e hoko ki te tangata, e kore e whakakāhoretia,
e tautuku rānei te tangata ki te ture, tika ranei.

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IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR SAND TIGER SHARKS (*Carcharias taurus*) FROM ALL COUNTRIES

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Dated: 7 September 2010

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION describes the legal basis for this import health standard and the general responsibilities of the importer.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE outlines whether a permit is required, the conditions of eligibility, and documentation that may need to accompany the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE describes the clearance requirements at the New Zealand border and, if necessary, whether the consignment must go to a transitional facility or containment facility.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification that must be completed fully and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of sand tiger sharks (*Carcharias taurus*).

1.2 Approval for the importation of each consignment of sand tiger sharks into New Zealand depends on the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes to New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 It is the importer’s responsibility to ensure that their goods are compliant with the current relevant import health standard at the time of importation.

2.2 The costs to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in performing functions relating to the importation of sand tiger sharks must be recovered in accordance with

the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager
The Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the delegated power and functions of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.

Biosecurity authorisation
Written authority from an inspector, given under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act (1993), to move uncleared goods from a transitional facility or biosecurity control area to another transitional facility, containment facility or biosecurity control area, or to re-export those goods from New Zealand.

Inspector
A person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act (1993). (Explanatory Note: An inspector is appointed to undertake administering and enforcing the provisions of the Biosecurity Act, and enforcing the provisions of the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996 in respect of new organisms).

MAFBNZ
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand

Official Veterinarian
A veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and *Aquatic Animal Health Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

Transitional facility
Means (a) any place approved as a transitional facility in accordance with section 39 of the Biosecurity Act (1993) for the purpose of inspection, testing, storage, treatment, holding or destruction of uncleared goods; or (b) a part of a port declared to be a transitional facility in accordance with section 39 of the Biosecurity Act (1993).

Veterinary Authority
Means the Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and *Aquatic Animal Health Code* in the whole territory.

4 EQUIVALENCE

4.1 It is expected that the consignment will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect.

4.2 Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply with this import health standard. In such cases, an application for equivalence may be considered, equivalence granted and a permit to import issued at the discretion of MAF. The following information must be forwarded by the certifying government's Veterinary Authority for equivalence to be considered:

- which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- the reason the consignment is considered to be of an equivalent health status;
- the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believes this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

5.1 A permit to import is required for importing sand tiger sharks.

5.2 Application for a permit to import must be made prior to the proposed date of importation in writing to:

Animal Imports Team
MAF Biosecurity New Zealand
PO Box 2526
Wellington
New Zealand.
Email: animalimports@maf.govt.nz or fax: +64 4 894 0733

It is recommended that the permit application is made before final plans for importing the sharks are made.

5.3 An application for a permit to import must provide the following information:

i) Name and address of exporter.

ii) Description (microchip number [if present], sex, approximate length, and any distinguishing markings) and quantity of the sand tiger sharks to be imported.

iii) Date of the proposed importation.

iv) Whether the sharks will undergo pre export quarantine (PEQ) or post arrival quarantine (PAQ).

v) If it is proposed the sharks will undergo PEQ, the name and address of the PEQ facility, and a letter from the Official Veterinarian who approves and supervises the facility stating it meets specifications and management procedures equivalent to those in the MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.06 *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Invertebrates*, with the exception that there are no requirements for waste water management, and the addition that it is run as a closed system from the external aquatic environment, and all water entering the system is treated to prevent the entry of biological agents.

vi) If it is proposed the sharks will undergo PEQ, details of the water system of the PEQ facility for approval by MAFBNZ. These must include:

- The shark quarantine facility is run as a closed system from the surrounding aquatic environment;
- All initial tank water and top-up or replacement water is treated to prevent the entry of biological agents, by filtration to ≤ 50 μm and treatment using a chlorine-based agent;
- The chlorine-based agent is added at a quantity that ensures a chlorine contact time (CT) value of 12,000 with a minimum contact time of 60 minutes;
- The free chlorine level for use in the CT calculation is measured at the end of the stated contact time;
- Details of the method used to measure the free chlorine level.

vii) The transport method and route during importation into New Zealand, which will be in accordance with all requirements for TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND noted in this import health standard, and evidence of transit authority from countries on the transport route.

viii) The transport method and route during transfer from the port of arrival in New Zealand to the containment facility (if undergoing PEQ) or transitional facility (if undergoing PAQ).

ix) Name and address of the containment facility (if undergoing PEQ) or transitional facility (if undergoing PAQ) to which the consignment is to proceed following importation.

x) If it is proposed the sharks will undergo PAQ, a letter from the authorised supervising veterinarian of the transitional facility stating that the facility is registered, is available for the dates proposed and has the capacity to accommodate the consignment.

5.4 A permit to import will be granted for a single consignment only.

6 ELIGIBILITY

6.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to sand tiger sharks, provided that all of the requirements of this import health standard are met.

7 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

7.1 All sand tiger sharks in the consignment must be contained so as to meet International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

7.2 The sharks must be transported by a route and method approved by the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.

7.3 If the sharks have undergone pre export quarantine (PEQ), the transport water (including any water added in transit) must be treated so that it is free of biological agents.

7.4 Each container must be labelled with the identity of the sand tiger sharks in that container.

7.5 Date, expected time of arrival and the flight number or ship's name must be notified to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 7 days in advance of importation.

7.6 Containers made of timber must meet the MAFBNZ Standard *Importing Wood Packaging Material from All Countries*: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/forests/standards/non-viable-forest-produce/wood-packaging-ihs.htm

8 QUARANTINE

Either 8.1 PRE EXPORT QUARANTINE

i) The sand tiger sharks must be held in pre export quarantine (PEQ) for at least 21 days prior to the date of export to New Zealand. The PEQ facility must be approved and supervised by an Official Veterinarian of the exporting country, and meet specifications and management procedures equivalent to those in the MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.06 *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Invertebrates*, http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/animals/154-02-06.htm, with the exception that there are no requirements for waste water management.

ii) The PEQ facility must be run as a closed system from the external aquatic environment, with all water entering the system treated to prevent the entry of biological agents. Details of the water system must be submitted to MAFBNZ for approval before a permit to import can be granted (see 5.3 vi).

iii) All sharks in the consignment must be in the facility before the PEQ period can start. The sharks must be isolated from any other elasmobranchs not of a tested equivalent health status, and isolated from all living teleosts.

iv) While in PEQ the sharks must be fed only frozen fish of non salmonid origin.

v) Ectoparasite and endoparasite assessment:

a. During PEQ each shark must undergo a thorough external examination (including skin, fins, cornea, buccal cavity, claspers, cloaca and gills) for ectoparasites. Animals may need to be sedated or anaesthetised to ensure a meticulous inspection can be conducted. In particular, the following parasites are to be examined for:

Stibarobdella loricata
Copepod species
Argulus spp.

All parasites must be removed manually or by chemical treatment in the water. The sharks must be demonstrated to be free of all visible parasites following removal. Details of chemical treatment must be recorded.

(Suitable parasite removal methods are outlined in Benz and Bullard (2004) Metazoan Parasites and Associates of Chondrichthyans with Emphasis on Taxa Harmful to Captive Hosts, in Smith MD, Warmolts D, Thoney D, Hueter R (editors) *The Elasmobranch Husbandry Manual: Captive Care of Sharks, Rays and their Relatives*, Special Publications of the Ohio Biological Survey, pp 325-415).

b. In the 5 days prior to the date of export, each shark must have a blood sample taken and blood smear prepared and examined for:

Trypanosoma spp.
Haemogregarina spp.
inclusion bodies consistent with infection with erythrocytic viral necrosis virus

MAFBNZ will be immediately notified if endoparasites or inclusion bodies consistent with infection with erythrocytic viral necrosis virus are found when the blood smears are examined.

Or **8.2 POST ARRIVAL QUARANTINE**

8.2.1 Biosecurity authorisation

i) Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an inspector at the port of arrival. The inspector shall, having verified that all the required documentation is present, issue a written

biosecurity authorisation to the importer or agent for the consignment to move from the airport to the approved transitional facility registered according to MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.06 *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Invertebrates* named on the permit to import. If there are any certification problems the supervising veterinarian must be notified.

ii) The inspector is to notify the supervising veterinarian responsible for the quarantine facility that the consignment has been issued a biosecurity authorisation to move to the facility.

8.2.2 Quarantine in New Zealand

i) During unloading at the transitional facility the supervising veterinarian shall verify, with the assistance of the operator of the transitional facility, that the species and number of sharks in the consignment are as recorded on the accompanying documentation.

ii) All packaging (with the exception of shipping containers) and any solid waste must be collected and disposed of by a process (such as autoclaving, deep burial, incineration, or steam sterilisation) approved by MAFBNZ. The operator of the transitional facility must maintain records of disposal, which may be audited by MAFBNZ.

Shipping containers must be either destroyed or treated as per the MAFBNZ Standard *Approved Biosecurity Treatments for Risk Goods Directed for Treatment*: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/bnz-std-abtrt

iii) The sand tiger sharks must be held in the transitional facility for a quarantine period of not less than 21 days.

iv) All sharks in the consignment must be in the facility before the PAQ period can start. The sharks must be isolated from any other elasmobranchs not of a tested equivalent health status, and isolated from all living teleosts.

v) While in the transitional facility, each shark must be subjected to testing, treatments or procedures required by MAFBNZ, including:

a. Thorough external examination (including skin, fins, cornea, buccal cavity, claspers, cloaca and gills) for ectoparasites. Animals may need to be sedated or anaesthetised to ensure a meticulous inspection can be conducted. In particular, the following parasites must be examined for:

Stibarobdella loricata
Copepod species
Argulus spp.

Any parasites must be removed manually or by chemical treatment in the water. The animals must be demonstrated to be free of all visible parasites following removal. Details of chemical treatment must be recorded.

(Suitable parasite removal methods are outlined in Benz and Bullard (2004) Metazoan Parasites and Associates of Chondrichthyans with Emphasis on Taxa Harmful to Captive Hosts, in Smith MD, Warmolts D, Thoney D, Hueter R (editors) *The Elasmobranch Husbandry Manual: Captive Care of Sharks, Rays and their Relatives*, Special Publications of the Ohio Biological Survey, pp 325-415).

b. In the 5 days prior to biosecurity authorisation to a containment facility, a blood sample taken and blood smear prepared and examined for:

Trypanosoma spp.
Haemogregarina spp.
inclusion bodies consistent with infection with erythrocytic viral necrosis virus

vi) All disease testing must be conducted at the Investigation and Diagnostic Centre, Wallaceville, Upper Hutt.

vii) If an exotic disease or any of the disease agents listed above is found, MAFBNZ may direct any or all of the sharks to be detained in quarantine for further testing, or order their destruction.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

Either 9.1 Biosecurity authorisation following pre export quarantine

i) Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment will be inspected by an inspector at the port of arrival. The inspector shall, having verified that all the documentation meeting the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION is present, issue a written biosecurity authorisation to the importer or agent for the consignment to move to the approved containment facility on the permit to import.

ii) The sharks and their offspring must remain permanently in a registered zoo, and may not be transferred to another zoo without the prior permission of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.

or 9.2 Biosecurity authorisation following post arrival quarantine

i) On satisfactory completion of the post arrival quarantine period, the supervising veterinarian shall authorise the movement of the sharks from the transitional facility to a containment facility for zoo animals. This may involve

physically moving the sharks, or a change from the facility operating to MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.06 *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Invertebrates,* to MAFBNZ Standard 154.03.04 *Containment Facilities for Zoo Animals* or 154.03.03 *Containment Facilities for Vertebrate Laboratory Animals*.

ii) The sharks and their offspring must remain permanently in a registered zoo, and may not be transferred to another zoo without the prior permission of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand (MAFBNZ) to accompany imports of sand tiger sharks:

MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Commodity: Sand Tiger Shark/s (*Carcharias taurus*)
To:
Import Permit No.:
Exporting Country:

I: IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Total number of animals:
Microchip number/s [if present]:
Sex/s:
Approximate length/s:
Any distinguishing markings:

II: ORIGIN OF ANIMALS

Name and address of exporter:
Airport/port of embarkation:

III: DESTINATION OF ANIMALS

Name and address of consignee:
Means of transport:
Airport/port of arrival:

IV: SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A

I, ……an Official Veterinarian authorised by the government of the exporting country, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the sharks identified in this zoosanitary certificate, that:

1 Pre export quarantine (delete section 1 if not undergoing pre export quarantine)

1.1 The sharks were held for at least 21 days immediately prior to export to New Zealand in a pre export quarantine (PEQ) facility as outlined in the New Zealand Import Health Standard for Sand Tiger Sharks (*Carcharias taurus*) from All Countries.

1.2 The PEQ facility is approved and supervised by an Official Veterinarian and meets the specifications and management procedures listed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand (MAFBNZ) Standard 154.02.06 *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Invertebrates*, with the exception that there are no requirements for waste water treatment.

1.3 The PEQ facility is run as a closed system from the surrounding aquatic environment and all water entering the system is treated to prevent the entry of biological agents. Evidence has been presented to demonstrate:

- All initial tank water, and top-up or replacement water was treated to ensure that no biological agents entered the system by filtration to ≤ 50 µm and treatment using a chlorine-based agent;
- The chlorine-based agent was added at a quantity that ensured a chlorine contact time (CT) value of 12,000 with a minimum contact time of 60 minutes;
- The free chlorine levels for use in the CT calculation were measured at the end of the stated contact time using a satisfactory method.

1.4 During the quarantine period the sharks were fed only frozen fish of non-salmonid origin.

2 Tests and treatments (delete section 2 if not undergoing pre export quarantine)

2.1 In the 5 days prior to the date of export a blood smear from each shark was examined for:

Trypanosoma spp.
Haemogregarina spp.
inclusion bodies consistent with infection with erythrocytic viral necrosis virus

2.2 The blood smears were examined in a government laboratory or government-approved laboratory. All test result sheets are attached to this veterinary certificate. MAFBNZ has been notified of any positive test results.

2.3 In the 5 days prior to the date of export, each shark underwent a thorough external examination (including skin, fins, cornea, buccal cavity, claspers, cloaca and gills) for ectoparasites, and:

i) was found clear of all external parasites, or

ii) had external parasites manually removed and was subsequently demonstrated to be free of visible ectoparasites, or

iii) underwent a chemical ectoparasite treatment and was subsequently demonstrated to be free of visible ectoparasites.

Active ingredient of treatment:
Dose rate of treatment:
Date of treatment:

(Delete options not used)

3 Transport to New Zealand

3.1 If the sharks have undergone pre export quarantine, during transport to the port of departure and during exportation the sharks will be isolated from sharks that are not of equivalent health status.

3.2 If being shipped by air, the sharks will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

3.3 The containers for transporting the sharks to New Zealand are either new or if previously used were cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant.

3.4 If the sharks have undergone pre export quarantine, the transport water (including any water added in transit) is treated to ensure that it is free of biological agents.

3.5 All the required documents have been examined and completed in accordance with the requirements of the New Zealand Import Health Standard for Sand Tiger Sharks (*Carcharias taurus*) from All Countries. All test result sheets (if the sharks have undergone pre export quarantine) and other relevant documents are attached to this certificate.

Name and signature of Official Veterinarian: official stamp and date
Name and address of office:

Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages